



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

SENSITIVE

MEMORANDUM

February 25, 1987

TO: The Commission

FROM: Charles N. Steele  
General Counsel

By: Lawrence M. Noble *[Signature]*  
Deputy General Counsel

SUBJECT: Request for Extension of Time in MUR 2314

On January 16, 1987, the Office of the General Counsel sent a letter to the National Republican Senatorial Committee ("NRSC") and Rodney A. Smith, as treasurer, notifying them of a complaint filed against them. The notification letter stated that their response must be submitted within fifteen days of the receipt of the letter. On February 20, 1987, this Office received a letter from counsel to the NRSC requesting an extension of time until March 10, 1987, to respond to the complaint.

Counsel cites two factors in requesting this extension. First, he states that "due to travel of personnel and turnover in the NRSC staff, the complaint was not directed to counsel in a timely fashion." Second, he notes that he became counsel to the NRSC on February 17, 1987, and has "not had adequate time to acquaint [himself] with the NRSC's operations during the last cycle and with the issues raised by the complaint."

This Office recommends that the Commission grant the request of counsel for the NRSC. As alluded to by counsel, the NRSC has recently experienced a transition in leadership and, consequently, a turnover in staff that could have resulted in a misdirection of the letter. Secondly, in consideration of the fact that counsel has assumed his position very recently, the amount of time he is requesting to prepare a response in a potentially complex matter is not unreasonable.

**Recommendations**

1. Grant counsel to the National Republican Senatorial Committee and Rodney A. Smith, as treasurer, an extension of time until March 10, 1987, to file a response to the complaint in MUR 2314.
2. Approve the attached letter.

**Attachments**

1. Request for extension
2. Proposed letter to counsel for NRSC

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